## Message Text

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UNCLAS THE HAGUE 3021

USEC

USOECD

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EFIN, ECON, ETRD, NL
SUBJ: NETH BANK PRESIDENT ZIJLSTRA WARNS ON PRICES, PROFITS
AND PROTECTIONISM

1. IN A SPEECH TO THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE RABOBANK,NETH BANK PRESIDENT DR.JELLEY ZIJLSTRA AGAIN WARNED OF THE DANGER OF INCRESSED INFLATION INTHE NETHERLANDS. HE NOTED THAT THE DUTCH SYSTEM OF AUTOMATIC PRICE COMPENSATION TENDED TO DOUBLE THE EFFECT OF NON-WAGE CAUSE PRICE INCREASES BY FORCING AN INCREASE IN WAGE COSTS.PRICE INCREASES, HE SAID, ARE CERTAIN TO EXCEED THE FORECAST SIX PERCENT FOR THIS REASON.

2. ZIJLSTRA ALSO REINTERATED HIS PAST PLEA FOR AN ALL-OUT EFFORT TO IMPROVE THE PROFITABILITY OF DUTCH INDUSTRY. HE SAID THAT PREVENTION OFFURTHER DETERIORATION IS INADEQATE. IF UNEMPLOYMENT IS NOT TO INCREASE TO 300,000 (FROM PRESENT UNCLASSIFIED

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200,000) IN THE COMING YEARS, SOLVENCY AND LIQUIDITY OF FIRMS MUST BE IMPROVED TO STIMULATE INVESTMENTS, HE WARNED.

3. ZIJLSTRA EXPRESSED SEPCIAL CONCERN ABOUT INCRASING CALLS FOR IMPORTS CONTROL IN OTHER COUNTRIES. HE SAID THAT PRESENT PRESENT ECONOMIC CONDITIONS ARE DIFFEREN FRO THOSE OF THE 1930'S

, BUT THAT IMPORT RESTRICTIONS ARE A SURE WAY TO RETURN TO SUCH CONDITIONS. BECAUSE OF THE IMPORTANCE OF TRADE TO THE DUTCH ECONOMY, HE SAID, THE NETHERLANDS MUST BE THE LAST COUNTRY TO IMPLEMENT RESTRICTIVE TRADE PRACTICES. MCCLOSKEY

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